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N O R T H A M E R I C A N N E W S

**BELIZE OPERATION PLANNED BY W6JKV:** Jim Treybig W6JKV will be operational from Belize as V31IV between April 7-13. As usual, he will run high power into a large 50 foot boom antenna. No other information on this operation was available.

**QSL INFO:** Jim Treybig W6JKV, 27200 Altamont Road, Los Altos Hills, California 94022

**XE2/N6XQ:** This is a reminder that Jack Henry N6XQ will be operational from the tip of Baja on April 2, 3, 4 & 5. The grids activated will be DL42, DL43, DL52 and DL53 under the callsign XE2/N6XQ. The equipment will be 100 watts to a 7.5 dB yagi.

**QSL INFO:** Jack Henry N6XQ, Box 7732, San Diego, California 92167-0732

**REPORT FROM NN7K:** Jim Foster NN7K (OR CN92) sends along the following letter:

"Just a note about my NN7K beacon. My beacon has been off the air for 3 weeks, until today, owing to an inspection of the building in which it is located (at the work QTH). The beacon is located about 2 miles from myself and both WA7TDZ and WA7TDU. Owing to its proximity and the power level, it pumped my noise blander as well as Dans and Sams. Accordingly, I purchased a Lafayette HA-650 and I am now using it for my beacon transmitter. With its power output of 1 watt, it makes it a lot quieter here! Unfortunately, the crystal from the old beacon puts out a frequency of approximately 50.069.8 MHz in the new transmitter. Therefore, I have ordered a new crystal for my beacon to restore it to 50.074 MHz. But as it may take 2-3 weeks to get here, I thought your readers might like to know it can be on either frequency in the next month."

**QSL INFO:** Jim Foster NN7K, P.O. Box 785, Klamath Falls, Oregon 97601

**REPORT FROM WA7TDZ:** Dan O'Connell WA7TDZ (OR CN92) sends along the following letter:

"It sure was a surprise to work you at C6A! As I have to use an indoor antenna, I have to work a lot harder at it! I am using a 2 element quad on 6M which I can rotate in the small attic of my condo. But with perseverance, I am up to 18 countries worked in 1 1/2 years. Since I am a store manager with Radio Shack, and as we sell a small 10M rig, it is on 28.885 MHz all day at work, with a quarter wave ground plane on the roof of the mall. Please pass along that if anyone hears West Coast activity, to call me on 28.885 MHz. In other news, I spoke to JH3DPB a few weeks ago on 10M and he said that he and "the same crew that put on Vietnam last year" will activate UAØ in June. I'm sure he will be very popular with the JA's but due to the distance, I don't think we'll get them from here except via multi-hop Es. Speaking of that area, we finally worked Alaska from here (KL7Y in RO91) on 3-3-91 at 2214Z. It is really frustrating to hear KL7NO on 28.885 MHz speaking of working all the WØ's, W5's, etc, with the signals going right over our heads! Our first JA's of the season were worked on 3-2-91 from 2325Z to 2359Z. I only worked 4 of them as I was looking for DU, VS6, etc. It is incredible how bad 6M has been. Last year I worked at least 600 JA's with a quarter wave ground plane in the attic from CN84 and this year almost zero. Jim NN7K has some flat property about 10 miles from here and I am currently putting up some large (fixed) antennas for 6M out there. As it is getting late in the F2 season, the first one will probably be aimed at 130° for South American TEP and AZ/TX/NM Es. These will be in the 16 to 20 dB range. There is lots and lots of room for fixed antennas and will notify everyone on 28.885 MHz when the first ones are up. Please pass along my address as I have had to move 5 times in the past 4 years and my Callbook address is never correct!"

**QSL INFO:** Dan O'Connell WA7TDZ, 4512 Cannon #0, Klamath Falls, Oregon 97603

**REPORT FROM K6FV:** Victor Frank K6FV (CA CM87) sends along the following letter:

"Things have been somewhat slow on 6M since January with the band closed more days than open. On March 3rd I had an opening starting at 2229Z which lasted until 2355Z. Stations worked included KL7Y, AH6Q/MM, JA3EGE, JE2KCP, JR2HOG, JA3RG, JA1ELY, JE1BYU, JA2TY, JG1GZN, JR1CRP, JA1RJU, JA7WSZ, JN1ANW, JA1SNA, JA1AAT, JM1LKO, JH1MCX, and JA1RFF. AH6Q/MM was worked twice during this opening - first at 2231Z in RM57 and again at 2355Z from RM58. During a "good" JA opening I can at times get a pile-up going on the beacon frequency. (The beacon is turned off when I am actively working on 6M). I had to go up to 50.090 MHz to get any bites during the March 3rd opening. Guess even the JA's don't tune much of the band. Many (myself included) just leave our receivers on 50.110 MHz most of the time. I'd like to see a lot more maritime mobile activity on 6M SSB & CW; even floating buoys with 6M beacons. Perhaps we'd find that the band isn't really closed much of the time."

**QSL INFO:** Victor Frank K6FV, 12450 Skyline Blvd, Woodside, California 94062-4541

**1991 JUNE VHF CONTEST DX-PEDITIONS:** The ARRL June VHF Contest will coincide this year with the UK Six Metre Group's Summer Sporadic-E Contest. As June is only a couple of months away, please send to me as quickly as possible, news of upcoming DXpeditions. So far, the Carolina DX Association consisting of AA4SC, K4MQG, AA4R, and WA4VCC has made known their plans of operating from Bermuda (VP9). I myself am looking at activating both Greenland (OX) and French St. Martin (FS) from early-to-mid June. The FS/KA3B operation looks to be in order, however, several things need to be worked out for the OX/KA3B operation to come off without any problems. I'll keep you posted on any developments in this area....KA3B.



**REPORT FROM KB6SL/CE3:** The following report comes from Kevin Szot KB6SL/CE3:

"Just after having written you that we have no daytime propagation here at 34° South, we had a major opening on March 10th, preceded by a less spectacular one on the 9th. CX, ZP and PY have been working VS6 and JA via long-path frequently (we are totally blocked to the east by the Andes). From the QTH in the Andes I can barely hear PY5CC and have never heard Europe, even with the 9 element M2 yagi. From Santiago with 15 watts and a 3 element mini-beam, I can easily work 9H1! The ski-resort QTH is excellent for the North-to-West; this means that I will be operating portable occasionally in the Coastal Range to give me the height I need to get over the Andes to work Europe, or with luck, from 12,000 feet at the top of a ski resort if I can get permission.

Between the 9th and 10th of March I made 325+ contacts, 90% USA. At least 35 states were worked (probably more, as I only got the state name for half the contacts). All call areas including VE1, VE3 and VE6 were contacted - a very wide-spread opening! On Sunday I was running 700 watts output and experienced many "S-1 pile-ups." Conditions were very erratic. In the 20-30 seconds that it took for me to note 5-10 callsigns, conditions would shift and I would get no response from the stations called. Many stations faded while giving me their report or had to catch the QSB just right for the signal peak to get through. CE3BFZ was also active - I hope that we gave CE3 to many folks!"

**QSL INFO:** Kevin Szot, c/o Citibank NA, Ahumada 48, Santiago, Chile

**REPORT FROM PY5CC:** Peter Sprengel PY5CC sends along the following report:

"I have been active on 50 MHz since September 1989 and I have worked 62 countries with 39 confirmed. My station is a Yaesu FT620B, Mirage A1015 amplifier, and a 7 element yagi at 20 meters above the ground. My best DX for late February/early March is as follows:"

FEB 17: 94 QSO's in JA1-JA6, VS6WV, VS6BI, XE1GE, CE3OK, SV1OE      FEB 22: TL8MB      FEB 23: 35 QSO's in JA1-JA6

FEB 25: LU7VB, LU9EHF, LU1MMX      FEB 26: 7 QSO's in JA8, PJ9JT, PJ2/KB1QE      FEB 27: LU9EHF      MAR 1: CT3BY

MAR 3: 6 QSO's in 9H, 2 QSO's in CT1, 4 QSO's in SV1, FC1JG, CT3BY, CT3DN, 6W1QC, TL8MB, TU2QJ, PP7AAD, I0AMU

MAR 6: ZC4MK      MAR 7: KH6JEB, KH6JJK

**QSL INFO:** Peter Zoch Sprengel, P.O. Box 07, Matinhos - PR, 83.260 Brazil

**REPORT FROM ZP6XDW:** Doug Woolley ZP6XDW sends along the following note:

"The ZP5AA beacon is now in operation. Please give credit to the Radio Club of Paraguay for installation and maintenance, not myself! Gary ZP5ZR is now active on 6M with an IC726 and a 6 element Cushcraft beam. His address is P.O. Box 1341, Asuncion, Paraguay."

**CP/KA3B BOLIVIAN DX-PEDITION UPDATE:** As most of you know, I had to delay my departure to Bolivia for a few days as my host, Glen CP6BY, had a short Easter Weekend vacation planned with his family. Now then, the exact dates for my operation will be from April 3rd (Wednesday) until April 10th (Wednesday). Unfortunately, this 7-day DXpedition will only encompass one full weekend instead of the planned two. I will be arriving in Santa Cruz at 6:30 AM local time (1030Z) on April 3rd and hope to have the station set-up and ready to go by early afternoon. I will make every effort possible to make as many QSO's as possible. However, since I am first and foremost a "guest" at another individuals home, you must keep in mind that (at times during the week) I will be away from the radio. Shel NI6E/KH6 was kind enough to provide me with a handy chart which depicts the predicted times for various paths from Bolivia. It's primarily based on the patterns seen in the logs of other South Americans. As a "guest", I will have other "responsibilities" besides playing radio. However, I will do my best to make the most of my time.

As for the operation itself, it will be primarily on SSB. CW was never one of my strong points. I am not proud of this fact, but it is a fact nonetheless. If conditions are marginal I will attempt CW, but beware, my sending of Morse is terrible! Although I realize that CW is very important from a DX'ers point of view when it comes to weak signal work, etc, I must admit that I despise the code. I have hated CW from day one and do not enjoy it one bit! 'Nuf said?

As for QSO exchanges, I would like signal reports ONLY! There are going to be too many people calling to worry about names, states, equipment, grid squares, etc. And PLEASE, I DO NOT WANT TO MAKE DUPLICATE CONTACTS! There are too many people who need CP for a new country....so don't work me more than once....okay?

If you are lucky enough to work me, please QSL direct only. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) or a couple of IRC's. Cards will be printed immediately after my return home and should be available by late April.

In closing, there will be 28.885 liaison and I will attempt to have a keyer operational in the beacon mode. If I am lucky enough to get into a large pile-up situation, working split is a possibility. It all depends on how everyone behaves....hi!

On a final note, I would like to thank Bob Magnani K6QXY for collecting funds from various California 6M ops in order to purchase an antenna (M2 6M-5 5 element yagi) for Glen CP6BY. This antenna will be taken along on my trip and left with the IC551 and N4LTA 624 Systems 100 watt amplifier.

## A S I A N                      N E W S

**4S7AVR SRI LANKA:** Noel 4S7AVR in Colombo, says his 6M antenna is down on the ground at present. He hopes to get it up soon and be back on 6M with his FT726R.

**NEPAL (9N):** A few days ago (March 22nd), Tom K0TLM was in Katmandu working on securing licenses for their operation. If all goes well, Tom along with AJ0E and VS6WV will begin operating around March 26th from 9N1MM's QTH. They will have separate stations for HF and 6M, so liaison should be no problem. The 6M rig will run 170 watts into 3 elements. (Tnx NI6E/KH6)

**ASIATIC R.S.F.S.R. (UA0):** Word has been received that two JA ops (one was 5H1HK) have applied to Moscow via Romeo (YA0RR, etc.) for permission to operate in June from a site near Vladivostok. Equipment would include an IC726 and an amplifier; a 24 hour beacon would be operated. The requested callsign is 4K0JA or EX0JA. This ought to provide some incentive for long-haul Es work from North America. (Tnx NI6E/KH6)



# SURVEY RESULTS: NORTH AMERICAN NEEDED COUNTRIES

I would like to thank everyone who took part in the 50 MHz North American Needed Countries Survey. Just over 600 survey forms were completed and sent to me for tabulation. It is hoped that the results will serve as a guide for those contemplating future DXpeditions. Please keep in mind that the results of this survey are by no means scientific. Although the respondents represented a fairly good cross-section of 6M operators (both seasoned DX'ers with over 40 years activity and relative newcomers with only a few years activity on the band), the results should be used as a guide only.

Presented below are four (4) Most Needed Lists. List #1 shows the results of all North American operators as a whole. Lists #2, #3, and #4 are broken down according to geographical area: East Coast, Midwest, and West Coast. For the purposes of this survey, the East Coast is comprised of call areas W1, W2, W3, W4, VE1, VE2, and VE3. The Midwest is comprised of call areas W5, W8, W9, W0, VE4, and VE5. The West Coast is comprised of call areas W6, W7, VE6, and VE7. The countries are listed according to need with #1 being the most needed, #2 being the second most needed, and so on. I hope you find the results interesting and thanks again for taking part in this survey.

ALL NORTH AMERICA		EAST COAST		MIDWEST		WEST COAST	
1.	FO	1.	FO	1.	FO	1.	FO
2.	KP1	2.	KP1	2.	KP1	2.	KP1
3.	YV0	3.	YV0	3.	YV0	3.	YV0
4.	TI9	4.	TI9	4.	TI9	4.	KP5
5.	KP5	5.	HR	5.	YN	5.	CY9
6.	YN	6.	YN	6.	KP5	6.	CY0
7.	YS	7.	XF	7.	YS	7.	TI9
8.	CY9	8.	TG	8.	CY0	8.	OX
9.	CY0	9.	CY0	9.	CY9	9.	FP
10.	OX	10.	CY9	10.	OX	10.	FG
11.	TG	11.	YS	11.	TG	11.	HK0
12.	HK0	12.	V3	12.	HK0	12.	YS
13.	HR	13.	HK0	13.	FG	13.	YN
14.	XF	14.	KP5	14.	V3	14.	FJ/FS
15.	FG	15.	OX	15.	6Y5	15.	PJ5-8
16.	V3	16.	PJ5-8	16.	HR	16.	J3
17.	PJ5-8	17.	FG	17.	FP	17.	TG
18.	HP	18.	FJ/FS	18.	FJ/FS	18.	VP2E
19.	6Y5	19.	J7	19.	XF	19.	HP
20.	FJ/FS	20.	V4	20.	HP	20.	V4
21.	FP	21.	J3	21.	VP9	21.	4U
22.	J7	22.	HP	22.	J7	22.	XF
23.	J8	23.	FM	23.	J8	23.	6Y5
24.	VP2E	24.	6Y5	24.	PJ5-8	24.	J8
25.	V4	25.	VP2E	25.	KG4	25.	VP2M
26.	4U	26.	VP2V	26.	VP2E	26.	HR
27.	J6	27.	4U	27.	HH	27.	HI
28.	J3	28.	J8	28.	J6	28.	V2
29.	FM	29.	J6	29.	V2	29.	V3
30.	VP2M	30.	CM	30.	VP2M	30.	J6
31.	VP2V	31.	FP	31.	4U	31.	J7
32.	HI	32.	HI	32.	V4	32.	FM
33.	VP9	33.	VP2M	33.	VP2V	33.	VP2V
34.	KG4	34.	V2	34.	J3	34.	KG4
35.	CM	35.	KG4	35.	KP2	35.	8P
36.	KP2	36.	KP2	36.	ZF	36.	VP9
37.	V2	37.	KL7	37.	CM	37.	KP2
38.	8P	38.	ZF	38.	C6A	38.	CM
39.	KP4	39.	VP9	39.	VP5	39.	C6A
40.	ZF	40.	KP4	40.	FM	40.	HH
41.	HH	41.	TI	41.	HI	41.	KP4
42.	C6A	42.	VP5	42.	8P	42.	TI
43.	VP5	43.	XE	43.	XE	43.	ZF
44.	TI	44.	8P	44.	KP4	44.	VP5
45.	XE	45.	HH	45.	TI	45.	XE
46.	KL7	46.	C6A	46.	KL7	46.	KL7
47.	VE	47.	VE	47.	VE	47.	VE
48.	K	48.	K	48.	K	48.	K

Presented below are those operators which had the fewest remaining countries within the North American Continent which still needed to be confirmed on 50 MHz (and in some cases worked and confirmed...hi!). Several respondents indicated that they had worked YV0 which was later disallowed. As some of you may remember, the W6JKV/YV0 DXpedition was disapproved for DXCC credit. The top stations were:

CALL	NAME	STATE	GRID	COUNTRIES REMAINING WHICH NEED TO BE CONFIRMED					
WA1OUB	Bob	NH	FN43	FO	KP1	YN	YV0		
W2CAP/1	Steve	MA	FN41	KP1	TG	YV0	6Y5		
K1TOL	Lefty	ME	FN44	FO	KP1	TI9	XF	YV0	
K8WKZ	Dave	MI	EN72	CY0	FO	OX	TI9	YV0	
WB4OSN	Joe	FL	EL96	CY9	CY0	FO	J3	KP1	OX
W3IWU	Herb	PA	FN20	FG	FO	KP1	XF	YS	YV0
W2IDZ	Ed	NJ	FN20	FO	HR	KP1	V3	YN	YS



**REPORT FROM KG6UH/DU1:** The following letter comes from Louis Anciaux KG6UH/DU1:

"February was an absolutely superb month through to the 4th of March. Subsequently, the rest of this month has been a bust! February even saw us making regular QSO's to VS6BI in Hong Kong on 144 MHz most evenings! The TEP which was present most evenings favored JA, but I did pick up HL, BV, YB, JD1, 6W1, KH0 and P2, and I am now up to 41 countries. February had European openings lasting from 10-15 minutes to 4 hours plus! A summary of these European openings is presented below:

FEB 5:	0818-1038Z	11 QSO's with OH2, SM7, DK5, PA0, G3, DL9, OZ1, OZ6
FEB 6:	0902-1009Z	27 QSO's with SM7, OZ1, ON4, OH5, PA0, DL8, LA9, G4, GJ4
FEB 7:	0841-0919Z	5 QSO's with OZ3, PA2, DK2, OH2 (Heavy QSB & QRN)
FEB 8:	0937-1149Z	25 QSO's with G3, PA0, DL2, OZ1, G4, ON1, DJ4, ON4, PA3
FEB 9:	0853-1125Z	72 QSO's with OH, DK, PA, SM, OE, OZ, G, GW4, OT7, EI5
FEB 12:	0952-0958Z	1 QSO with 9H1ET (Signals gone after 10 minutes)
FEB 16:	0635-1045Z	46 QSO's with OH, SM, OZ, LA, I0, G, GM4, GI4
FEB 18:	0825-1052Z	50 QSO's with DK, PA, SM, OZ, G, GI4, LA, GW3, LX
FEB 19:	0900-1004Z	14 QSO's with OH, PA, DL, GJ4, FC1, GW, G (QSB & QRN)
FEB 22:	0826- ?	7 QSO's with IK0, DJ0, OE2 (Had to go QRT at 0900Z)
MAR 3:	0815-1118Z	138 QSO's with SV, I, OE, FC, ON, PA, DL, YU, GM, 9H1, LX, GU2, GI4
MAR 4:	0848-1047Z	36 QSO's with DK, G, OH2, OE6, LX1, GJ4, IK0, YU3, 9H5, GW3
MAR 5:	0924-1145Z	10 QSO's with 9H, OZ, DL, OH, LA, SM (Signals in/out & weak - 10M was dead!)
MAR 6:	0853-1045Z	39 QSO's with PA, DJ, I, OE, ON, YU, OZ, FC

I note that often times during the week the activity can be very low, yet the band shows signs of excellent capabilities. Except for more eastern locations such as the old "Bloc" countries, Cyprus, Israel, etc, I still need to work EA, ZB, C3, HB0, and 4U1 to just about work all European countries. Unfortunately, OY9JD always seems to show up on 10M too late! The big holes are North and South America and the many little islands to my south, east, and west. In the 5 months that I have been on, I have QSO'ed more countries than I did in 9 years from San Diego! I have well over 130 grids now but I am still trying to sort them out. When working stations I prefer to get calls and reports only. The Europeans seem intent on relaying grid squares which takes time and creates problems. Due to very high QRN levels here (which is my biggest problem), I often have to get the European stations to repeat their calls several times. As you know, many of these European stations are operational at 10 watts or less, which adds to the problem. We are exploring a possible DXpedition to a rare QTH; but, that's likely not to be until this September/November period (we are trying for late May) - IF at all. I'd like to do a 10-day trip if possible, however, there are many logistics to take care of. "

**QSL INFO:** Capt L.N. Anciaux USNR, USCINCPAC REP-LNO, US Embassy - Manila, APO San Francisco, California 96528

**OCEANIA ACTIVITY MINI-SUMMARY:** Shel Remington NI6E/KH6 sends along the following Oceania summary: At the day of the equinox, the following countries have been active this season:

DU, FK, KH6, KH2, V73, VK, ZL, 3D2 are all active daily, or nearly so.  
FO5, KH3, KH4, P29, T20, VK9N, 5W1 all seem active about once per week.  
V63, V85, YB apparently active about once per month.  
V85, VK9L, ZL9 DXpeditions have come and gone.  
Current or announced DXpeditions are A35, JD1m, KH0, VK9X, VK9Y.

Inactive Oceania countries:

H44, KH0, YJ8, ZK1s, ZK1n, and ZL7 all have resident 6M ops who were occasionally active in 1989 or 1990, but not recently. C21, FW, KC6, KH1, KH5, KH5k, KH7, KH8, KH9, T30, T31, T32, T33, VK9m, VK9w, VK0h, VK0m, VR6, ZK2, ZK3, ZL8, 3D2c, 3D2r, 9M6: nothing (but most were activated in 1988-90).

**LONG-PATH PROPAGATION SUMMARY BY NI6E/KH6:**

During the 45 days preceeding the equinox, the following genuine 6M long-path openings have been reported:

3D2/VK4/2/8 -to- ZD8/6W1/9L1/V51 on at least 14 dates between 2240Z and 0245Z.  
JA -to- Mediterranean/CU1/Northwest Africa on at least 9 dates between 2230Z and 0030Z.  
Caribbean -to- JA on 2 dates between 1300Z and 1500Z.  
PY5/2/PP5 -to- VS6 on 2 dates between 0125Z and 0350Z.  
VK8 -to- ZD8VHF on March 9th at 0135Z.  
NI6E/KH6 -to- CU1EZ on March 19th at 1008-1019Z.

What makes the above especially surprising is that most of these paths had been believed to be likeliest in the October period. All this long-path follows a pretty tight pattern in terms of time, azimuth, and distance, just as have previous long-path openings. For example, no long-path (or short) ever seems to traverse or penetrate a 6M black-out zone where it is between about 0345 to 0630 local mean solar time. (Note that's not the same as local standard time, which is arbitrary and political). Also, no verifiable long-path propagation has ever been reported when it is between about 1300 and 1900 LMST at either end. Unfortunately, stations situated at middle and high geomagnetic latitudes rarely seem to be involved in long-path. More detailed analyses and predictive guidelines are in preparation for eventual publication.

**A35EM TONGA:** With no advance notice, Mako JA1OEM showed up on 21 March on 50.115 MHz SSB, and later on 50.165-167 MHz SSB. He is expected to be there until April 5th. He is an elderly gent who speaks almost no English, and has a thick JA accent which makes even phonetics unclear. When asked his grid locator, he wisely says, "it'll be on the QSL card." Mako was also active in 1990 from Sri Lanka and in 1989 from Rarotonga. This Tonga operation is evidently a substitute for the cancelled Tokelau trip. QSL to his home callsign.

**VK9YJ COCOS (KEELING):** Latest word via VK3AMZ is that his operation will take place from 26 or 27 March until April 2nd. A beacon will run on 50.090 MHz. (Tnx NI6E/KH6)



**N6AMG DX-PEDITION CANCELLATIONS:** Joel Paladino N6AMG has cancelled his planned DXpeditions to both Tahiti as FOØSIX and Rarotonga as ZK1JP or ZK1SM. (Tnx NI6E/KH6)

**JH3TXR/KHØ NORTHERN MARIANAS:** This station was noted by Shel NI6E/KH6 during late March running an unattended beacon on 50.128.4 MHz. No other information was available.

**JH5EES/JD1 MINAMI TORISHIMA:** This station was worked by V73AT at 1100Z on March 19th. No further info, but presumably he is one of the weather station workers there.

**VK9X CHRISTMAS:** This is a reminder that JAØGPT and JHØMHE will operate from VK9X between April 2-9. Their equipment will be a Yaesu FT655 and 6 element HB9CV yagi with a beacon running on 50.125 MHz.

**QSL INFO:** Kazunori Uematsu JAØGPT, P.O. Box 20, Nozawa, Saku-City, Nagano 384-01, Japan

**V73AT MARSHALL ISLANDS:** Tim V73AT is running a beacon on 50.093 MHz whenever he's away from the rig. It has 100 watts into a 5 element Cushcraft, generally aimed 110° in daylight/southwest at night. Tim's QTH can be reached by phone via 805-238-7994 extension 2296 (a Raso Robles, CA number). His QSL route is via K2CL, but other correspondence goes direct to: P.O. Box 338, APO San Francisco, California 96555.

**QSL INFO:** Charles H. Lloyd K2CL, 105 Crow Hill Road - RFD 2, Freehold, New Jersey 07728

**DUIJPN QSL INFO:** H. Sato JA1UMN (the QSL Manager for DUIJPN) has a new address. Please send QSL's to: H. Sato JA1UMN, 5-64-6, Aizawa, Seya-ku, Yokohama-City, Kanagawa 246, Japan

## EUROPEAN NEWS

**IMØ/IK2GSO SARDINIA:** Enrico IK2GSO will be QRV as IMØ/IK2GSO from the Island of San Antico between June 15-29. He'll be using 25 watts output and a 4 element yagi. The grids to be activated are JM48 and JM49. QSL goes via Enrico's home address. (Tnx PA3EUI)

**1AØKM / HV3SJ OPERATION PLANNED:** Al IØAMU is planning to be active as 1AØKM and/or HV3SJ (both in grid JN61) during the last week of April and the last week of May. No other details were available.

**REPORT FROM PA3EUI:** Peter van der Woude PA3EUI sends along the following report:

"Here things have been going quite well and I managed to work a few new countries in the past few weeks. New countries worked included TL8MB in IJ77 (#78) on February 11th at 1221Z, PT7NK in HIØ6 (#79) on February 11th at 1229Z, YB2AT in OI52 (#80) on February 17th at 1018Z, and ZP6XDW in GG14 (#81) on March 10th at 1259Z. Presented below is a table of what has been happening between PA and the Pacific:

DATE	UTC	COUNTRIES	DATE	UTC	COUNTRIES	DATE	UTC	COUNTRIES
FEB 5	0900-0925	DUI	FEB 16	1005-1020	DUI	MAR 3	1040-1105	VK8
FEB 6	0855-1015	DUI	FEB 17	0850-0855	VK8	MAR 4	0825-0945	VK8
FEB 7	0830-0835	JA6		0930-0935	KH2		0845-1000	DUI
	0830-1005	DUI		0930-0935	VK8		0855-0910	JA1/2/3
FEB 8	0930-1015	VK3		0955-1000	V86		0955-1045	VK6
	0930-1220	DUI/3		0955-1015	VK8		0955-1050	JA1-7/9/Ø
	0945-1110	JA5/6/JR6		1015-1025	YB2	MAR 5	1015-1215	VK6
	1010-1045	VK5	FEB 18	0845-1050	DUI		1045-1110	JA4
FEB 9	0855-1120	DUI/3	FEB 19	0900-0915	DUI		1125-1135	DUI
FEB 10	0950-0955	VK2	FEB 27	0915-1005	VK4		1155-1215	VK8
FEB 11	0850-0905	KH2		0940-0945	VK3	MAR 6	0755-1130	VK6
FEB 15	0820-1010	VK8	MAR 1	0915-1100	VK6		0825-1010	JA1-6/Ø/JR6
	0850-0925	VK4	MAR 3	0810-0945	VK6		0855-1030	DUI/3
	0935-1025	JA1-2/4		0830-1120	DUI/3		0910-0925	KH2
FEB 16	0835-0845	VK8		0900-1025	JA1-5/7/9/Ø			
	0950-1000	JA2/4		0950-1130	KH2			

**NOTE:** All openings to JA were on side-scatter between 85° and 115° where the direct path is about 45°. All other countries were in on a direct beam heading.

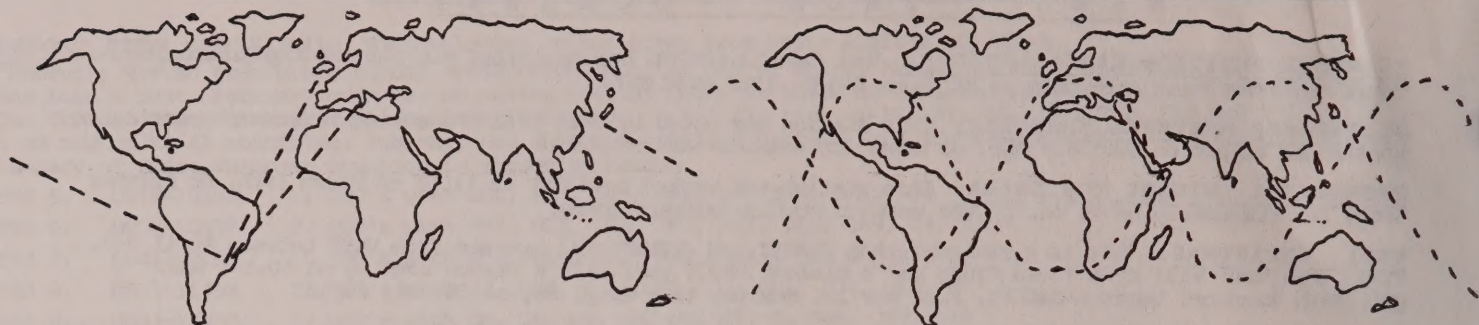
**PROPAGATION PREDICTION:** With the ongoing trend as is shown now in both geomagnetic activity and rising flux numbers, it is most likely that we will reach the second peak of Cycle 22 within 2 or 3 months. The geomagnetic cycle is expected to reach its peak sometime later this year. My predictions for the summer months are:

1. Slightly less Es than last year.
2. More TEP than last year.
3. Possible 1 or more major auroral events with major to severe storm levels to be seen later this summer. The number of smaller aurorae is expected to increase dramatically.
4. Little or no trans-Atlantic multi-hop Es openings due to a too-disturbed geomagnetic field.

If all the above proves to be correct, it is most likely that Cycle 22 is going to develop its best F2 propagation during the Fall of 1991 and possibly even into the Spring of 1991. Based upon today's trends, it is therefore very likely that F2 (but especially TEP), will be available to us until the Spring of 1993, if not even later that year.

**SM7 SIX METRE GROUP MS CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT:** The SM7 Six Metre Group invites all those active on 6M to participate in their 1991 MS-Contest. The MS Contest will take place between 2200Z on August 11th and 0400Z on August 12th. The frequencies for this contest will be 50.150 - 50.300 MHz. Members of the SM7 Group will favor the following frequencies: SM7AED (50.170), SM7CMV (50.180), SM7FJE (50.190), SM7JUQ (50.210), SM7FMX (50.220), SM7LXV (50.230), SM7SCJ (50.240 plus 50.152, 50.157, and 50.162). The results of this contest will be published in amateur publications in each of the countries that provides participants. The top 3 entries as well as the leading operator in each country will receive an award. This information, in addition to the required contest exchange, scoring, and log entries will be given in detail in one of the summer issues of the Bulletin.





GJ4ICD (MAR 15, 1991) 2300Z

NOT VIA LONG-PATH?

JA -TO- ZP, PY, LU, 6W, I, F, GJ

APPLY THIS IDEA TO MANY OF THE OPENINGS!

During my visit to the UK in March, I paid a call on Mike G3JVL. Mike is well-known for his propagation work on many frequencies. I asked him how, when working KG6DX and many JA's on 50 MHz, that the QTF is usually wrong from the Great Circle bearing. Mike explained that he thought it was possible that the path was like a sine wave around the earth. On my way back to Jersey (13 hours on the ferry!), I became very interested in this theory, having 13 hours to think about it! Little did I know what was to follow.

On the 15th of March word was put out that there had been an opening to PY and JA at around 2300Z on the 14th from the UK. I had experienced only one such opening a few years ago when working on the GB3IQJ beacon in the early hours of the morning, then a few JA's were heard in QSO. So, at 1800Z on the 15th I was going to sit it out and see what happened.

At 1830Z signals began to appear from the south with the V51E beacon on 50.101 being very TEP-sounding. The V51VHF beacon then appeared, also very TEP-sounding. TL8MB appeared from nowhere on SSB and it took me several minutes to identify his call due to real bad flutter. At 1915Z Kosie V51E shut down the beacon and came on 6M with SSB. Again, the QSO was hard taking several minutes to complete. Both beacons and Kosie had vanished by 2200Z when the shorter path to 9L1 and 6W1QC opened! ZD8VHF appeared at S3 with flutter showing that the path was moving slowly westwards. At 2230Z PY5CC was worked 529/529 in GG54. Now, just after this time, JA's were reported working into LU, PY, and ZP. At 2300Z PY5CC was still in. 6W1QC was still S-7 and now he started to work JA's. During the next hour I listened very carefully and heard JG2BRI and JJ3CF?. JG2BRI was on SSB at 2316Z. ZP6XDW called on 28.885 to say he had an almighty opening to JA. Conditions continued till 0000Z when the 9L1 beacon was still into GJ at around 429.

Now, the idea that G3JVL had could start to make sense, if the signals were somehow refracted in the ionized TEP zone; they may join another path already in motion (ie: JA to LU/PY). Linking both paths together now becomes possible, and it happened. I rather doubt that the full long path to JA was in existence and strongly suspect refracted TEP zonal propagation. This idea of Mike's could also be the answer to many more of the unusual openings found at these GJ latitudes.

For instance, most JA openings in GJ have occurred at a beam heading around 90°-120°. Some have been at 60°, but it's very difficult to measure accurately with small beams due to the beamwidth. The JA's also beam at around 240° into the Indian Ocean. This may not be side-scatter, but again an entry into a TEP zone. Strangely enough, these JA openings do occur when we have TEP to the southeast. This could also explain the strange heading for Joel KG6DX. At one point he was at 150°!...so the signal must have curved somehow.

Geoff Brown GJ4ICD, The TV Shop, Belmont Road, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands, U.K.

## A F R I C A N N E W S

**5V7SA TOGO:** A complete 6M station was shipped to Steve Anderson (5V7SA) on March 19th. I supplied a new desk microphone and coaxial cable, Dan Petruskewic WB2CUS donated an SB110 with matching supply, and Herb Spoons W3IWU donated a Wilson 4 element yagi. Thanks also goes to Dennis Panther of the Agency for International Development in Washington, DC and QSL Manager Paul Greaves WB4LFM for making this shipment of gear possible.

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## THE 50 MHz DX BULLETIN

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